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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,157	12/08/2003	Kia Silverbrook	ZFI90US	5221

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SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

YE, LIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/14/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/729,157	SILVERBROOK, KIA	
	Examiner Lin Ye	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2003.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09112774.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki U.S.

Patent 5,847,836 in view of Duffield et al. U.S. Patent 4,432,005.

Referring to claim 1, the Suzuki reference discloses in Figure 1, a printhead assembly for a camera system having a chassis and a platen assembly that is mountable on the chassis, the platen assembly (roll-shaped platen 10) being configured to support passage of a print medium along a printing path, the printhead assembly (5) comprising an ink reservoir assembly (carriage 4) that is mountable on the chassis (See Col. 4, lines 41-67). However, the Suzuki reference does not show a detail about the ink reservoir assembly defines at least three ink reservoirs in which respective differently colored inks are received; the ink reservoir assembly defining an outlet; a guide assembly that is positioned in the ink reservoir assembly to define at least three discrete ink paths that open at the outlet; and at least one printhead integrated circuit that is positioned in the outlet to span the printing path, the, or each, printhead integrated circuit defining at least three sets of inlet apertures, each set of inlet apertures being aligned with a respective ink path.

The Duffield reference teaches in Figure 1, a printhead assembly comprising the ink reservoir assembly defines at least three ink reservoirs (8a, 8b and 8c, see Col. 4, lines 55-60) in which respective differently colored inks are received; the ink reservoir assembly defining an outlet (hole 86); a guide assembly (86a, 86b and 86c) that is positioned in the ink reservoir assembly to define at least three discrete ink paths that open at the outlet (see Col. 6, lines 64-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-3); and at least one printhead integrated circuit (4) that is positioned in the outlet to span the printing path; printhead integrated circuit defining at least three sets of inlet apertures (e.g., three sets of orifices in the printing head 4), each set of inlet apertures being aligned with a respective ink path (See Col. 4, lines 57-60, Col. 5, lines 3-5 and Col. 6, lines 65-68). The Duffield reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages for the defines at least three ink reservoirs in which respective differently colored inks are received; the ink reservoir assembly defining an outlet; a guide assembly that is positioned in the ink reservoir assembly to define at least three discrete ink paths that open at the outlet; and at least one printhead integrated circuit that is positioned in the outlet to span the printing path, the, or each, printhead integrated circuit defining at least three sets of inlet apertures, each set of inlet apertures being aligned with a respective ink path so that the printhead assembly can print out color image and the link be provided in a low-cost easily replaceable cartridge with an automatic signal to indicate when the ink supply is low (see Col. 2, lines 7-9). For that reason, it would have been obvious to the one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to modify the printhead assembly of Suzuki ('836) for providing at least three ink reservoirs in which respective differently colored inks are received; the ink reservoir assembly defining an outlet; a guide assembly that is positioned in

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the ink reservoir assembly to define at least three discrete ink paths that open at the outlet; and at least one printhead integrated circuit that is positioned in the outlet to span the printing path, the, or each, printhead integrated circuit defining at least three sets of inlet apertures, each set of inlet apertures being aligned with a respective ink path as taught by Duffield ('005).

Referring to claim 2, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 1, and Duffield reference discloses in which the ink reservoir assembly defines three ink reservoirs (8a, 8b and 8c) and the guide assembly (86a, 86b and 86C) defines three discrete ink paths (See Col. 6, lines 64-68).

Referring to claim 3, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 2, and Duffield reference discloses in which both the ink reservoir assembly (8a, 8b, 8c) and the guide assembly (86a, 86b and 86C) are elongate to span the printing path, the ink reservoir assembly including an elongate base member (base 84) and an elongate cover member (94 as shown in Figures 5 and 10-12), the cover member having a roof wall, a pair of opposed side walls and a pair of spaced inner walls, the side walls and the inner walls depending from the roof wall and being generally parallel to each other and the base member having a floor and a pair of opposed end walls and defining an elongate opening in which the printhead integrated circuits are mounted, the guide assembly being interposed between lower ends of the inner walls and the floor as shown in Figure 5 (See Col. 6, line 61 through Col. 7, lines 17).

Referring to claim 4, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 3, and Duffield reference discloses in which the guide

assembly includes a pair of guide walls that extend from respective lower ends of the inner walls inwardly towards the elongate opening to define the three distinct ink paths that terminate at respective sets of inlet apertures (orifices) of the printhead (4) integrated circuits as shown in Figures 5, 6 and 10-12 (See Col. 6, line 61 through Col. 7, lines 17).

Referring to claim 5, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 3, and Duffield reference discloses in which the base member, the cover member and the guide assembly are molded of a plastics material (see Col. 4, lines 63-65, Col. 6, lines 61-63 and Col. 7, lines 5-7).

Referring to claim 6, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 3, and Duffield reference discloses in which one of the end walls defines a number of air inlet openings that are treated to be hydrophobic to permit the ingress of air into the ink reservoirs as ink is fed from the ink reservoirs and to inhibit the egress of ink (air pump 22 providing constant pressure, see Col. 4, lines 65-67 and Col. 6, lines 25-33).

Referring to claim 7, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 3, and Duffield reference discloses in which a sponge-like member (slight suction in the chamber 38, see Col. 5, lines 60-64) is positioned in each ink reservoir to store the ink while inhibiting agitation of ink during general use of the camera system of the Suzuki reference (See examiner's comments on claim 1) .

Referring to claim 8, the Suzuki and Duffield references disclose all subject matter as discussed in respect to claim 1, and Suzuki reference discloses a camera system that includes a printhead assembly as shown in Figure 1.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Ye whose telephone number is (571) 272-7372. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Lin Ye
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622

May 8, 2007